

# Watchman & Journal.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1890.

For the first time in the history of the judiciary committee of the national house a majority of its members has agreed to report a joint resolution favoring a constitutional amendment granting the suffrage to women.

KISSING is dangerous. A serious international difficulty between Russia and Turkey is threatened because a Turkish officer and five students forcibly performed the operation on the wife and daughter of an attaché of the Russian legation while they were out walking.

The Rutland Herald is a king-pin at "faking." Those dispatches from points all over the state, telling of the enthusiasm with which Judge Royce's name in connection with the governorship is received, were too utterly thin. It was a waste of space, neighbor. Better have run in anti-prohibition miscellany.

A BILL will soon be introduced in congress prescribing a fine or imprisonment for using the flag for advertising purposes. This looks a little childish, but the wise gentlemen in congress doubtless have some good reason for the proposition. The only real indignity that can be offered the flag is a narrow, cowardly or unbecoming act by some official representative of the country.

ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL CLARKSON was dined by the Norfolk Club of Boston on Saturday. In his speech he attacked civil service reform, regarding the government as a political rather than a business institution. A great many people will differ from him on this point, but his sincerity will not be questioned. In a day of much duplicity in politics Mr. Clarkson is not afraid of giving his private views public expression.

A CANADIAN firm at Trout River, N. Y., has adopted a sharp device for evading duties which it doubtless expected would work successfully. It moved its building so that it stands on the boundary line between the United States and Canada, thereby hoping to avoid half, if not the whole, of the duty on goods imported into this country. It so happens that the statute of congress is explicit on this matter, and the treasury department has given orders that duty be levied on the entire stock.

WE ask the careful attention of our readers, wearied by the intensely personal character of the canvass for governor, to the letters of the secretaries of state for nine of the states of the Union eminent for the soundness of their customs and institutions respecting the matter of promoting the lieutenant-governor directly to the office of governor. The force and clearness of these letters can not be enhanced by comment. They will stoutly confirm Vermont republicans in their determination resolutely to stand by the convention of 1886.

THE town of Cedar Keys, Fla., is a queer place, anyway. It has a mayor, Cotterill by name, who has murdered several men and has terrorized the town generally. When he interfered with the business of the collector of the port, the latter sent to Washington for federal help, and it came in the form of the revenue cutter "McLane." The marines on the "McLane" have been hunting for Cotterill, but have not found him as yet; and, strange to say, the citizens resent this interference of the government in the local administration of justice. They side with the mayor against the federal officers.

THE numbering of the people will begin next Monday, June 2. The census enumerators are required by law to procure certain information. Many questions, some that may seem inquisitorial, will be asked. The enumerators will ask none that the law does not require, and answers, full and explicit, should be cheerfully given. It should be remembered that the enumerators are punishable if they disclose the facts of a personal character they are required to procure. The information is strictly confidential as between the citizen and the government. In the interest of an accurate census, we bespeak for the enumerators the hearty co-operation of the enumerated.

NEAL DOW has written a letter in which he appears to approve a policy of blocking the operation of the recent decision of the supreme court regarding "original packages." A judge in Iowa is acting on Mr. Dow's suggestion. He has instructed the grand jury to report an indictment against any person charged with selling liquors, either in "original packages" or not. Does it occur to these men that this course is revolutionary in the highest degree? The decision may be unsound, but it will not help matters at all to set it in defiance. When a community ceases to respect and obey the law because it does not happen to like it,

anarchy is but a few steps further on. The bulwark of liberty is deference to law.

ANONOROS of the talk that the introduction of new text-books into the public schools of the state is a heavy burden on parents, the following, which a representative of a New York publishing house says to a Boston Globe reporter, is interesting: "Go up into the backwoods of Vermont to-day and you can buy a geography, an arithmetic or a grammar in a country store at a lower price than you can get it of the publishers, if you wished to buy a thousand copies. That may seem strange, yet it is a fact. You can buy at retail in Vermont to-day at a lower price than you can purchase for cash in large quantities of a jobbing house in either New York or Boston. That shows how the competition has been carried on in Vermont, and there has been a big fight up in the Green Mountains over text-books."

NEGOTIATIONS between the department of state and the British government regarding the seal fisheries in Behring sea have not as yet ripened into an agreement, and in the meantime Secretary Windom has ordered the cutters "Bear" and "Rush" to the scene of "poaching," with instructions to warn all craft not to kill seals on the waters claimed by this country. If the warning is not respected, the cutters are authorized to seize the craft and dismantle them sufficiently to prevent a continuance of seal-killing. This will be rather more effective than the method of last year, which was to put a prize crew of one on a captured boat and head it for port. The prize crew of one was generally an interested spectator of more seal-killing. It is not likely that many boats will be dismantled, for such a course would be construed as an act of war. What is going to be the outcome of this difficulty does not clearly appear.

CONGRESSMAN STEWART offered an amendment to the tariff bill giving maple sugar a bounty, and sustained it by a strong speech. This was done in the face of the discouraging letter of Mr. McKinley, and the vote proved that the republican wing of the house was not prepared to move against the leader's wishes. Yet Mr. Stewart did wisely, for the case was laid before congress in a proper light, and the senate will be much more apt to do justice to Vermont sugar-makers than it would have been had nothing been said in the house. But maple sugar was beaten in the ways and means committee, apparently by the listlessness or preoccupation of members whose business it was to establish before the committee, at the outset, the principle that the maple sugar of Vermont, in respect of tariff legislation, should always stand on the same basis as the sorghum of Kansas or the cane sugar of Louisiana. That opportunity lost or unimproved, success subsequently, as the event is proving, would be exceedingly doubtful. Any success Senators Morrill and Edmunds may achieve in the senate will be unavailing—unless the acquiescence of the house shall be won when the amended bill is returned for its consideration.

A SAN FRANCISCO paper publishes a story of a conspiracy of a corporation of English land-owners in Lower California to overturn the Mexican government, establish an independent state, and then apply for admittance to the United States. The Englishmen claim that there is no security for them under Mexican rule. This programme would be an imitation of the Texan revolt, and no doubt the people of California and vicinity would like to see it carried out. Lower California naturally belongs to the United States, but whatever the course taken by interested residents and owners in it, the United States government will be likely to see to it that no official encouragement is given such a scheme as this. Indeed, it seems that Secretary Blaine knew of it before the San Francisco paper gave it publicity, and that Secretary Proctor has ordered the troops along the line to interfere with any demonstration in violation of neutrality laws, while the man-of-war "Charleston" will cruise about the peninsula to stop operations by sea. It is said that the people of Southern California wish to form a new state. The country will have something to say about this, if a new strip of territory is to be annexed.

THE law of Massachusetts which forbids the sale of liquor over bars was enforced in Boston on last week Tuesday for the first time since its passage, a number of years ago. As yet the results have not been very satisfactory. Patrons of saloons simply sit at tables and drink, instead of standing up and drinking. As the law was intended to give licenses only to places that give bona fide meals, the present state of things is nearly as bad as the old way. Crackers and cheese are supplied to meet the technical requirement, but it is proposed to find out at once, by test cases, whether these articles of food in comparatively small quantities, and liquors of all kinds in large quantities,

make the eating-places that the law contemplated. Many practical temperance reformers think that if licenses were to be given only to those doing a legitimate hotel or restaurant business, the best solution of the problem, as it relates to large cities, would be reached. Edward Everett Hale pronounced the dictum that "horizontal drinking must go" some years since, and he and others who have faith in the new departure will doubtless note its success or failure with keen interest. Other Massachusetts cities have not been so active as Boston in enforcing the law.

## Concerning His Ability.

The "lone fisherman" of the state canvass, the Rutland Herald, finds it necessary to attack the ability of Carroll S. Page, the leading candidate for governor, in order to shore up the candidacy of the feeble old man it set up last week. Mr. Page's record, we think, will fully meet this attack. He stands at the head, in this country, in his line of business. This is a fair indication of the possession of one kind—and a very essential kind—of ability of the highest order. An inspection of his office and premises, an examination of his system of conducting his business, will convince the most skeptical that Mr. Page is a business man of the very first rank. He is also as expert and well informed in finance as in business management or commercial affairs. The history and standing of the financial institutions of Hyde Park afford ample evidence of this fact. None in the state are more judiciously managed or are more prosperous.

But it was as inspector of finance that Mr. Page exhibited, in a public way, not only his ability and conservatism as a financier, but his official fearlessness and independence also—very valuable, and not too common, qualities in a public officer. In his report covering the last term of his tenure of the office he plainly expressed his well-settled conviction that trustees of savings institutions, "in their anxiety to pay their depositors liberal dividends, are in too many instances allowing the quality of their assets to fall below the high standard which should be maintained." He called attention to the increasing tendency to invest in western mortgages, by reason of their high rate of interest, rather than in the safer lines of securities bearing lower rates of interest. He enforced his admonition by giving the figures of western mortgages held by the savings banks in each year for the ten years following 1879. The reports showed that the investments of the banks in this class of securities had increased from \$1,278,399 in 1879 to \$6,563,797 in 1888. The inspector believed the banks were getting "too many eggs in one basket," and with commendable candor said so. He pointed out the importance of confidence in the savings banks. Disaster to any one of these inflicts an injury on all and upon the state. At considerable length and with great force he set forth the danger accruing from high rates of interest obtained at the risk of safety to the principal. His remarks on this point may be found in full on the seventh and eighth pages of his report for the year 1888. He concluded by recommending "that the law allowing investments on western mortgages should be so amended as to permit only forty per cent of the entire assets of any savings bank or trust company to be invested therein," and that dividends be limited to four and one-half per cent per annum until a net reserve of ten per cent had been accumulated. The wisdom of the recommendations was acknowledged by the enactment of a law in full conformity therewith as to dividends, but the limit of investment in western mortgage was reduced from fifty-eight and one-third per cent to fifty per cent, instead of to forty per cent. There is, however, to-day, we believe, but little doubt of the soundness of the inspector's recommendations, and the fact is recognized that had his suggestions been fully complied with it would have been better for banks and people. Finally, the inspector had the ability—and the hardihood—to compel the imperious owner of the Herald, who is also the proprietor of a savings bank and a sort of a law unto himself, to obey the laws of Vermont respecting savings bank investments. If his ability is questioned, Mr. Page's friends will respond to any challenge.

## Hooker and Statesmanship.

The Brattleboro Phoenix is neither just nor candid when it says the WATCHMAN is supporting Colonel Hooker for representative simply because General Groat "has been in congress long enough." People not partaking of the bias that clouds the Phoenix's vision see very much more in the WATCHMAN's article. Read, for example, the letter from Windham county in another column. The Phoenix objects to Colonel Hooker because he does not "possess the qualities and intuitions of statesmanship." "He could take care of the boys," but he has not "the education or cultivation" that would make his "influence felt in the consideration of leading questions of public importance," etc., etc. What

is statesmanship? What are its "qualities" and "intuitions"? There was a time when the qualities of a statesman were exhibited in providing the ways and means of keeping the hungry, ragged, unpaid continental army together. At that particular time those qualities were of more practical account than ability to evolve a system of government or make a profound and learned speech. Statesmanship was once displayed in analyzing our system of government and expounding the constitution. In the debates in congress and in the civil war those qualities have been quite conclusively settled. The qualities and intuitions of statesmanship were exhibited by Thad Stevens when he found in the war powers of the government authority to create the greenback. That was practical statesmanship. While the professional statesmen were haggling and quibbling over the ways and means of raising money to pay the troops, the bold commoner from Pennsylvania took a cross-lots cut to the doing of the thing. Practical statesmanship always gets the whipwhop on the theoretical. Real statesmanship does not necessarily depend on a college education, nor is it the handmaiden of "culture." American history is rich in illustrations of this fact, but citations are not necessary. Every school-boy can supply examples.

Colonel Hooker is a great deal more than "a jolly good fellow." He has the elements of practical statesmanship. He displayed them in his legislative experience of 1880 and 1882, and particularly in the latter year as chairman of the ways and means committee. He was the moving and impelling spirit in the work of evolving \$200,000 of revenue annually from sources that had before been practically untaxed. With consummate tact, shrewdness, hardihood and persistence he pushed the important work of his committee to a successful issue, and that law is now yielding the state over a half million dollars of revenue biennially. Here he exhibited "qualities and intuitions of statesmanship" that very powerfully commend themselves to the people of Vermont. Had the present representative of the second district, in his legislative career, exhibited "qualities" or "intuitions" of so promising a character?

Statesmanship to-day means to the farmers of Vermont, besides relief from the burdens that oppress them, an equal and assured share with her sister states in the benefits of national legislation. They are looking for a man to represent them whose "qualities" and "intuitions" are of the kind that shall be able to extort from the national ways and means committee—in the beginning, as a bottom principle—recognition of the equality of the maple sugar of Vermont with the cane of Louisiana and the sorghum of Kansas in respect of tariff legislation. Alertness at that stage of legislation were worth an ocean of buncombe subsequently. There was statesmanship in an assured bounty of two cents a pound on maple sugar. Colonel Hooker has shown in his legislative history, in his course in the incubation of the corporation tax law, in his entire political and business career, that he possesses the "qualities" and "intuitions" of this sort of statesmanship—and it is the sort that counts. We believe that his "intuitions" would have taught him that not Chicago, but New York, was both the best place for the world's fair and also the place in which Vermont dairymen were most directly interested. There were millions for Vermont productions in a world's fair at New York.

Lawyers are useful members of society and of congress, but we do not believe in an exclusively lawyer delegation. With scarce an exception, since the time of Morrill, nearly a quarter of a century, Vermont's representatives in congress have been lawyers. The representative from the first district, whether it be Powers or Batchelder, will be a lawyer. We believe it is for the good of the whole state that the second district send a business man. How admirably do Morrill and Edmunds serve the state and nation in the senate. Let us have a similar division of experience and profession in the house, and to effect this useful combination send Colonel Hooker from the second district.

## The Office of Treasurer.

The Rutland Telegram formally announces the candidacy of Hon. Henry F. Field for the office of state treasurer. No one will question the entire competency of Mr. Field for this office. He is a man of fine character, and familiar by long experience with financial affairs. He is an estimable gentleman and deservedly high in the regard of the people of the state. The treasurership, however, like the office of auditor and secretary of state, is not a political or representative office. These officials have to do with very important affairs of state that demand familiarity and experience for their most efficient management. Never were the financial affairs of the state more efficiently conducted. Mr. DuBois is a financier of rare ability and an accountant of es-

pecial expertness. No detail of his private business receives more painstaking and assiduous care than he gives to the affairs of the state. Engaged in no other occupation that engrosses his time and distracts his attention, he is able to give to the duties of his office his direct personal supervision, performing himself the bulk of the labors of the treasurer's office. So the affairs of the treasury are managed with exceptional thrift. Seek any information of the treasurer, it is given with promptness, precision and clearness. Such perfect mastery of the financial affairs of the state is of no ordinary advantage, as has been frequently shown when the legislature or the public has sought enlightenment of the treasurer. And he is of unimpeachable integrity. The demand for a change, if indeed there is a demand, was never more conspicuously absurd than in the case of Treasurer DuBois. We see no evidence that the people want a change. We meet with much conclusive testimony that the people prefer that Mr. DuBois shall have a re-election—and we feel sure that he will be renominated and re-elected.

## The Tariff Bill.

The tariff bill which was reported to the house by Mr. McKinley has been adopted by that body by a party vote, with one republican, however—Mr. Coleman of Louisiana—voting against it. The vote was taken on last week Wednesday. The bill was in the house just twelve days, so that very little time was given for debate. Indeed, it seems to us that a measure of such importance, so directly affecting the business interests of the entire country, should have been more thoroughly discussed. As it was, but four days were given to the general debate, and the time taken for debating amendments did not fill four of the remaining eight days. Certain amendments—particularly that giving a bounty to maple sugar—should have been adopted, and more discussion would have secured the adoption of some of them. The point of Mr. McKinley that it would weaken the chances of the bill itself if any amendments were adopted does not commend itself very strongly to constituents who were hoping to see their local interests provided for. The bill has in it much that will be approved by protectionists. As its framers have intimated, it carries out the pledges of the republican party in the campaign of 1888. Yet it could have been improved in several particulars had amendments which a majority of the house undoubtedly favored been agreed to. It was natural that the party, while approving the scope and purpose of the bill, should have expected a variety of amendments in the details.

It is generally understood at Washington that many members of the house took with good grace defeat on the amendments that they proposed and were anxious to see incorporated into the bill, expecting that the senate would go over the whole ground and do justice to some neglected interests. While that hope is better than nothing, it is very unsubstantial. The senate will undoubtedly make many changes in the bill—in fact, it is possible that a new bill will be reported—but no one knows exactly what will be done, and no local interest can be certain that the senate will regard it as deserving protection. One thing, however, is pretty sure, and that is that there will be a free discussion. A free discussion means a chance for Vermont sugar.

## Non-Promotion the Rule and Practice.

Concurrently with the "consensus" of the republicans of Vermont on the subject of adherence to the non-promotion rule of 1886, the editor of the WATCHMAN addressed a note of inquiry to the secretary of state of the several states of the Union to ascertain what had been the practice in this respect in the country at large. The answers do not disclose a single instance in which the promotion of the lieutenant-governor to the governorship has received the sanction of either of the dominant political parties. The radical impolicy and unwisdom of such a custom has been instinctively and universally discerned, and in the one or two cases in which promotion had been established, as in Missouri, it was long ago summarily disestablished, and has never been revived. We invite attention to the following letters from states which, for the most part, will be acknowledged to be fair representatives of the virtue and intelligence of the American Union.

### INDIANA.

Editor of Watchman:—Answering yours of September 15, 1889, I believe the promotion of lieutenant-governor to the office of governor in this state has occurred but twice in the history of the state. Yours very truly, CHARLES F. GRIFFIN, Secretary of State.

### MICHIGAN.

Editor of Watchman:—Replying to your circular letter of the 13th instant, the lieutenant-governor of Michigan has in no case been promoted to the office of governor, except in case of vacancy, and then only as acting governor. Very respectfully, G. R. OSBORN, Secretary of State.

### IOWA.

Editor of Watchman:—The direct promotion of the lieutenant-governor to the office of governor has never been regarded with favor in Iowa. In no case has a lieutenant-governor ever been nominated for the higher office. At the republican state convention, held August 25, Acting Lieutenant-

governor Hull, one of the strongest and most popular men of the state, was defeated before the convention, which consisted of over one thousand delegates. Yours very truly, FRANK D. JACKSON, Secretary of State.

### MASSACHUSETTS.

Editor of Watchman:—Yours of the 13th instant received. It has not been the custom in this commonwealth to promote lieutenant-governors "directly to the office of governor." In fact, I find but four lieutenant-governors who have been so promoted since the adoption of the constitution, in 1780. Yours respectfully, HENRY B. PERCIE, Secretary of State.

### KANSAS.

Editor of Watchman:—In reply to your circular of the 13th instant, I would say that it has never been the custom to rotate or promote from lieutenant-governor to governor in this state, although two of our governors have been lieutenant-governors—Governor Osborn, and Governor Humphrey, our present governor. Very respectfully, WILLIAM HIGGINS, Secretary of State.

### CONNECTICUT.

Editor of Watchman:—In reply to your circular, etc., of recent date, in reference to gubernatorial succession, I would say that for a period of thirty years back there is no instance in this state where the lieutenant-governor has been elected to the office of governor, and only one instance where he has received the nomination for governor. Previous to the year 1889 there was a general feeling that an election to the office of lieutenant-governor ended a man's political career, but there is no such feeling now. Truly yours, R. J. DWYER, Clerk of Secretary's Office.

### OHIO.

Editor of Watchman:—The office of lieutenant-governor was created by the constitution of 1851 in this state, and I proposed to give you the facts where the lieutenant-governor became governor in Ohio. Under our constitution the first instance was that of Charles Anderson, who became governor upon the death of John Brough, in 1864. When R. B. Hayes took his seat as president of the United States, in 1876, Thomas L. Young, lieutenant-governor, became governor. Since then there has been no accession from the position of lieutenant-governor to governor. I am of course very respectfully yours, DANIEL J. RYAN, Secretary of State.

### ILLINOIS.

Editor of Watchman:—Answering your letter of the 13th instant upon the subject of the promotion of the lieutenant-governor directly to the office of governor, without the intervention of an election, I have to say that the practice in our state has hardly been the rule, inasmuch as that of the eighteen lieutenant-governors who have been nominated and elected to the office in the state of Illinois not one has been promoted, directly or indirectly, to the office of governor, except by the intervention of death, or the election of the governor to congress, and then only for the unexpired term. No one, I believe, of the lieutenant-governors of this state has ever received the nomination of his party for the office of governor, though several have been candidates before the nominating convention. Judging the future by the past, the promotion of the lieutenant-governor directly to the office of governor is not likely to become the rule of practice in Illinois. Very respectfully, I. N. PEARSON, Secretary of State.

### MISSOURI.

Editor of Watchman:—Replying to your letter of inquiry: It has never been the custom of the people of Missouri to promote the lieutenant-governor directly to the office of governor. There have been but two instances of such promotion in the history of the state—one in 1820 and the other in 1836. At that time the state government was new, the state itself sparsely populated, our public men were untried and it was a difficult matter to secure the services of men willing and competent to perform the arduous duties incumbent upon the gubernatorial function. In both the instances cited, the lieutenant-governors promoted to the governorship were equally prominent before the people, equally strong in their intellectual powers and equally proposed to be equally competent to perform the duties of governor. But this kind of promotion ceased with the second instance. The rule of promotion, scarcely established, was immediately disestablished. And of the seventeen governors of Missouri since 1820, none had served as lieutenant-governor or been a candidate for that office. There have been several instances wherein the lieutenant-governor of Missouri has offered himself as a candidate for nomination as governor, but in no case has he received the nomination. Just why his party or his people denied the promotion sought I can not undertake to say, especially when it has sometimes appeared that such candidate was perhaps the best of the gubernatorial attainments and mental power of his successful rival. Yours respectfully, A. A. LESUEUR, Secretary of State.

In eleven states of the Union—including, in New England, Maine and New Hampshire—the office of lieutenant-governor does not exist, the president of the senate succeeding to the office of governor, in case of death or disability, till a new election has been made. If any voter has been led, by the jargon and special pleading of the papers of the promotion combine, to question the wisdom of the action of the convention of 1886, let him be reassured by the evidence presented from other states which are among the most eminent for the intelligence of their people and the wholesome character of their customs and institutions. Vermont was led, by the ready tact and shrewdness of Colonel Hooker, to break up a custom against which press and people had been loudly declaiming; and she followed his leadership with a rush and sweep that showed how intolerable the custom had become and how eagerly she seized the opportunity to trample it under foot. In this connection it is pertinent to publish another, which is a type of many, of the answers the WATCHMAN received from its circular of last August:

Editor of Watchman:—I was a member of the convention at the time Lieutenant-governor Fuller was nominated. I applauded as loudly as anybody the remarks of Colonel Hooker, and rejoiced that the convention was possessed of sufficient backbone to break up the pernicious practice of making governors by rule. Unless the ring, which seems to run the politics of Vermont, is broken, I fear the democratic vote in the state will be largely increased at the next election.

The answers to the WATCHMAN circular showed that representative citizens in all parts of the state were opposed, three to one, to a return to the custom of immediately promoting the lieutenant-governor to the governorship. The developments of the canvass sustain the "consensus." Non-promotion is the established practice of the states of the Union. The rule is about the only wholesome one of the many that dominate political action in this state. We are glad to see that in respect to it the republicans of Vermont propose to "STICK."